

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	
	)	
Eiro FUJII et al.	)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
	)	
Continuation of	)	Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 09/387,498	)	
	)	
Filed: February 15, 2002	)	
	)	
For: MEASURING SYSTEM WITH	)	
IMPROVED METHOD OF READING	)	
IMAGE DATA OF AN OBJECT	)	

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please add new claim 27 as follows:

--27. (New) An image input system, comprising:

a plurality of measuring units for measuring an object and for generating shape data of the object, the measuring units being disposed at a plurality of positions relative to an axis associated with a position of the object;

a calculating unit for calculating coordinate transformation information based upon a plurality of shape data obtained from different points of view of the object obtained by the measuring units disposed at the plurality of positions, said coordinate transformation information including a position of the axis; and

a processing unit for synthesizing at least some of the plurality of shape data in accordance with the calculated coordinate transformation information.--

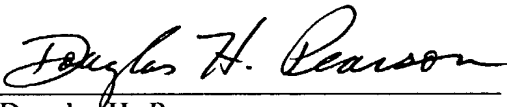
**REMARKS**

By this Preliminary Amendment, claim 27 has been added to round out the scope of protection being sought. Support for claim 27 may be found, for example, at page 93 of the present specification. Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By:   
Douglas H. Pearson  
Registration No. 47,851

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620

Date: February 15, 2002